

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-6, 8-12, 14, 35-42, 44, 45 and 47-66 are rejected; and claims 15-34 and 67 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention.

**Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to examine claim 67 together with claims 1-6, 8, 10-12, 14, 35-42, 44, 45 and 47-66 as indicated in paragraphs 3 and 4 at page 2 of the Office Action dated October 31, 2008.**

**Additionally, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to acknowledge their claim for foreign priority and receipt of the certified copies of the priority documents (from the International Bureau). The certified copies of the priority documents are lodged in PAIR with a date of February 22, 2005.**

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that “the organic solvent is at least one member selected from the group consisting of monohydric alcohols, polyols, ketones, amides, nitriles, aldehydes, alkylene glycol monoalkyl ethers, ethers, esters, hydrocarbons, fluorinated alcohols, and phosphate esters”. Support is found, for example, by reference to claim 12 as originally filed. Claims 12 and 14 have been amended to conform to the amendment to claim 1. Claim 9 has been canceled.

Review and reconsideration on the merits are requested.

Claims 1-6, 8-12, 14, 35-42, 44, 45 and 47-66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent 5,905,063 to Tanabe et al. The Examiner asserts that monoethanolamine, which may be the metal-free base of Tanabe ‘063, is within the scope of the claimed organic solvent.

In response, claim 1 defines the organic solvent in Markush form to the exclusion of nitrogen-containing compounds. Further, because “halogen compounds” can include amines having halogen, “halogen compounds” have been excluded as well.

Tanabe et al neither describes nor suggests that the organic solvent is at least one member selected from the group consisting of monohydric alcohols, polyols, ketones, amides, nitriles, aldehydes, alkylene glycol monoalkyl ethers, ethers, esters, hydrocarbons, fluorinated alcohols, and phosphate esters.

Tanabe et al does not meet each of the terms of the amended claims, and therefore is not anticipated by Tanabe et al. Withdrawal of the foregoing rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6, 8-12, 14, 35-42, 44, 45 and 47-66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by US 2006/0178282 to Suyama et al.

Applicants respond as follows.

Suyama et al, published as WO 2004/084288 on September 30, 2004 subsequent to the August 21, 2003 PCT filing date of the present application is not available as prior art against the claims of the present application. Withdrawal of the foregoing rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6, 8-12, 14, 35-42, 44, 45 and 47-66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by US 2005/0003977 to Itano et al.

Applicants respond as follows.

Itano et al recites “fluoride and/or hydrogendifluoride salt formed from at least one member selected from the group consisting of hydroxylamines, aliphatic amines, aromatic

amines, aliphatic quaternary ammonium salts and aromatic quaternary ammonium salts with hydrofluoric acid" (claim 1 of Itano et al).

However, Itano et al neither describes nor suggests "the organic solvent is at least one member selected from the group consisting of monohydric alcohols, polyols, ketones, amides, nitriles, aldehydes, alkylene glycol monoalkyl ethers, ethers, esters, hydrocarbons, fluorinated alcohols, and phosphate esters" as required by amended claim 1.

That is, Itano et al neither describes nor suggests the specific organic solvents as claimed in claim 1. Itano et al therefore does not meet each of the terms of the amended claims, and therefore does not anticipate the amended claims. Withdrawal of the foregoing rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is respectfully requested.

Withdrawal of all rejections, rejoinder of claim 67 and allowance of claims 1-6, 8, 10-12, 14, 35-42, 44, 45 and 47-67 is earnestly solicited.

In the event that the Examiner believes that it may be helpful to advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number indicated below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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